

# Students experience SkillsUSA Professional Development Program during 2008 Kentucky Leadership Training Institute

This year's SkillsUSA Kentucky Leadership Training Institute (KLTI) was held in Louisville at the Executive West Hotel from October 13-15. A total of 105 students and advisors from 11 Kentucky Tech area technology centers and locally operated technical schools participated in a professional development program (PDP) designed to prepare future leaders for success.

Using the official SkillsUSA PDP workbook, students and advisors were involved in an intense training to set short and long-term goals; and, to get back to the basics of understanding the SkillsUSA motto, theme, colors, creed, history and official attire. Students demonstrated the knowledge they learned by completing activities and participating in competitive events.

*At right:  
Breckinridge  
Co. ATC  
delegation*



*At left: C.E.  
McCormick  
ATC delegation*



*At right:  
Eastside TC  
delegation*



**According to SkillsUSA  
Kentucky state director  
Steve Phillippi:**

***“KLTi is the capstone event for the leadership-training segment of SkillsUSA Kentucky. It brings the participants together for a single purpose – learning the importance of the SkillsUSA organization.***

***“The 3-day institute challenges our participants with training in communication skills, decision making, managing for success, and above all, SkillsUSA information and purposes.***

***“Attending this training is often the first step toward state or national leadership roles in SkillsUSA. That, in turn, leads to professional leadership as these students enter the workforce.”***



Under the guidance of SkillsUSA Kentucky State Officer Advisor Ruth Gray, this year's state officer team was an integral part of the institute. The eight state officers served as leaders of the Red, White, Blue, and Gold teams. Two state officers were assigned to each of the four teams and worked together to help all participants develop confidence and skills in public speaking, creative problem solving, critical thinking, and SkillsUSA's policies and procedures.



**Gray:**

*"We brought our state officers to Louisville early so they could practice their respective parts for the official opening and closing ceremonies, to prepare them for their leadership training roles, and to allow each team time to decorate their training rooms."*

*"Each of our state officers stepped up to the challenge by motivating students and teaching leadership skills for success. We are proud of how they performed under pressure and how well they worked with institute participants."*



# SkillsUSA Kentucky State Officers prepare for training



*At left: KLTi Red Team leaders  
Righter Dundon, Franklin  
County CTC and Danielle  
Phelps, Caldwell County ATC go  
over training posters with  
Phillippi.*



*At right: White Team leaders (l) Loretta  
Wallace, Eastside Technical Center and  
(r) Heather York, Caldwell Co. ATC;  
discuss PDP lesson plan with Phillippi.*

# SkillsUSA Kentucky State Officers prepare for training

*At right, Blue Team member Tyler Myatt, Paducah ATC; Phillippi, and Kristi Reeves, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College discuss team rules for the 3-day training session.*



*At left: Gold Team leaders Jason Ballman, Breckinridge County ATC; and Andrea Lewis, Caldwell County ATC talk with Mr. Phillippi about the materials provided for training activities.*



The PDP training also reinforced the 25 requirements of the coveted Kentucky Statesman. In order to earn a Kentucky Statesman pin, a student must be able to accurately recite each of the test requirements before a state officer. When the student completes each requirement, a state officer signs off to document successful completion of the item. Some of the requirements include reciting the motto, naming all the components of the SkillsUSA emblem and the meaning of each, reciting the six points of the Creed, reciting the SkillsUSA pledge, naming the six steps for processing a main motion, and reciting a twenty-second elevator story – just to name a few.

This year - all participants on each team earned the Kentucky Statesman pin and completed the Level 1 Training Degree. And, several students expressed a desire to run for a state office during the Spring 2009 Kentucky State Leadership Conference and Skills Championship.



*Above:  
Danielle  
Phelps helps  
Andrew  
Gibson,  
Lincoln Co.  
ATC SkillsUSA  
treasurer.*

*At right:  
Corey Harper,  
Morgan Co.  
ATC SkillsUSA  
treasurer.*



# SkillsUSA Kentucky Advisors



*Photo (l to r): SkillsUSA Kentucky state director Steve Phillippi, Garry Harper, Morgan Co. ATC; Jeff Miller, Corbin ATC; Daryn Morris, Southside TC principal; Tom Thompson, Breckinridge Co. ATC; Joe Norman, Eastside TC principal; Jimmy Lee Porter, C.E. McCormick ATC; Melissa Steele, Russellville ATC; David Tichenor, Butler Co. ATC; Dwight Richards, Lincoln Co. ATC; Amy Tracy, Lincoln Co. ATC; Steve Stubbs, Newport HS; Jim Olert, Southside TC; Mickey Bayer, Caldwell Co. ATC; and SkillsUSA Kentucky state officer advisor Ruth Gray, Caldwell Co. ATC.*

*"To me, KLTI is a wonderful learning experience for the students. They have all grown as a result of the opportunity to attend." Amy Tracy – Lincoln Co. ATC*

*"It is amazing to see the changes in students as they progress through the institute experience. KLTI is a wonderful program for students to attend because they all come away with something special."  
Dwight Richards – Lincoln Co. ATC*



# Opening Session Guest Speaker

## John Marks, executive director

### Office of Career and Technical Education



**Marks:**

***“Life is about Choices.***

***“Students here have made good choices. They have chosen to stay in school. They have chosen to become involved. They have chosen to study a career that will lead to a good paying job and they have made a decision to be leaders in their field by joining SkillsUSA.***

***“The KLTi experience is about learning how to become a leader, learning how to meet other people, presenting oneself professionally, and taking pride in the***

***career they have chosen to pursue. By attending KLTi, these students have chosen to be leaders.***

***“In an age where people feel that students make bad decisions, these KLTi student participants are making a lot of good choices. This professional development program has a history of helping students develop the life skills that are critical for succeeding in postsecondary education, entering the workplace and being a supportive community member. These are the skills taught in SkillsUSA. This is a direct response to what business and industry partners have asked us to do.***

***“In fact, the students here know that this experience will provide them with some of the life skills they need to succeed. They know this because they are making good choices.”***



## ***Pitts discusses “The Real World of Work” and concludes with SkillsUSA scholarship check presentation***

Do students understand the real world of work? Not really, according to Tom Pitts, J.D. Patton ATC electrical technology instructor.

Pitts was invited to make the special presentation because his topic, “The Real World of Work” hits at the very heart of what employers expect – and, in many cases, students have not experienced how tough the world is in the global economy.

Pitts discussed how business and industry look at employees, what employers look for in the interview, a good work ethic, teamwork, communication skills, motivation, initiative, leadership skills, flexibility, honesty and integrity, and problem solving.

“It’s stark reality and Mr. Pitts made an impression on my students,” says Jimmy Lee Porter, C.E. McCormick ATC instructor. “It was kind of like they woke up.”

***As a result of a challenge to raise scholarship money for SkillsUSA Kentucky state officers, Mr. Tom Pitts has answered by donating a personal check for \$250.***

***Donations can be sent to SkillsUSA state director Steve Phillippi, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor CPT, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40601. Make check payable to SkillsUSA Kentucky.***

### **Pitts:**

***“There is a saying over 2,000 years old that goes - what so ever you sow that will you also reap.***

***“Today I sowed a seed in the future of a young person so that I might reap a future from theirs. If they have no future, neither do I.***

***“I will continue to do this as long as I can.”***

***Below: Mr. Tom Pitts presents SkillsUSA Kentucky state director Steve Phillippi with check to sponsor a state officer scholarship.***



# Competitive Events and Awards



## Extemporaneous Writing

**1<sup>st</sup> – Megan Stanford,  
Russellville ATC (Red Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Christine Halstead,  
Corbin ATC (Blue Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Josh Bostrom  
Breckinridge Co. ATC (Red Team)**



## 2 Minute Speech

**1<sup>st</sup> – Nathan Powell  
Russellville ATC (Gold Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Wesley Baird,  
Eastside TC (Red Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Joshua Baker  
C.E. McCormick ATC (Red Team)**



# Competitive Events and Awards



## Spelling

**1<sup>st</sup> – Marybeth Harmon  
Morgan Co. ATC (Blue Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Owen Townsend,  
Russellville ATC (White Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Corey Tomes  
Russellville ATC (Red Team)**



## SkillsUSA Pledge

**1<sup>st</sup> – John Whitfill  
Breckinridge Co. (Gold Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Zach Davis,  
Corbin ATC (Gold Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Christine Halstead  
Corbin ATC (Blue Team)**

# Competitive Events and Awards



## Poster

**1<sup>st</sup> – Christina Smith  
Eastside TC (Blue Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Marcus Wells,  
Eastside TC (Red Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> - Megan Singleton  
Lincoln Co. ATC (White Team)**



## Banner

**1<sup>st</sup> – Jacob Blanchard  
Butler Co. ATC (Red Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Patrick Cromis  
Breckinridge Co. ATC (Blue Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Kirsten Everson  
Newport HS (Gold Team)**



# Competitive Events and Awards



## **20 Second Elevator Story**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Tie – Janie Vergason  
Breckinridge Co. ATC (Red Team)**

**David McKinney  
Eastside TC (Blue Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Patrick Cantrell  
Morgan Co. ATC (Gold Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Zack Wisner  
Eastside TC (Gold Team)**



## **T-Shirt Design**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Jessica Nunley  
Breckinridge Co. (Gold Team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Jacob Blanchard  
Butler Co. ATC (Red Team)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Jacqueline Groves  
Newport ATC (Gold Team)**

# Opening and Closing Teams



## Gold Team – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

*Photo top left, (l to r): John Whitfill, Breckinridge Co. ATC; Taylor Morris, Breckinridge Co. ATC, Jacqueline Groves, Newport HS; Kirsten Everson, Newport HS; Nathan Powell, Russellville ATC; and Dalton Oglesby, Russellville ATC.*

## Blue Team – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

*Photo bottom left, (l to r): Christina Smith, Eastside TC; Jacque Springston, Breckinridge Co. ATC; Patrick Cromis, Breckinridge Co. ATC; Z.J. Beeding, Lincoln Co. ATC; Aaron Fuzua, Breckinridge Co. ATC; Odie Smiddy, Corbin ATC; and Kristen Patterson, Caldwell Co. ATC.*

## White Team – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

*Photo below (l to r): Cody Johnson, Butler Co. ATC; Marjorie Sharp, Southside TC; Trevor Howard, Butler Co. ATC; Josh Matthews, Breckinridge Co. ATC; Joshua Berry, Russellville ATC; Matt Green, Eastside TC; and Morgan McDaniel, Russellville ATC.*







*At the conclusion of the training, team leaders chose an outstanding member from each team.*

*Photo (l to r): Wesley Baird, Eastside TC (Red Team); Owen Townsend, Russellville ATC (White Team); John Manners, Southside TC (Blue Team); and John Whitfill, Breckinridge Co. ATC (Gold Team).*

## ***GOLD Team emerges as overall winner***



***Once the competitive events were completed and the scores tallied, the Gold Team was announced as the overall team winner. State officers Jason Ballman and Andrea Lewis served as Gold Team leaders.***



**At right: Butler Co. ATC delegation;  
Below: Caldwell Co. ATC delegation**



***Below: Corbin ATC delegation  
at the Hawaiian Pizza Party.***



***Below:  
Breckinridge Co.  
ATC advisor Tom  
Thompson.***



***Above: State officer  
team gets ready to  
meet the KLTI  
delegation for the  
Hawaiian Pizza Party.***





## 2008-09 SkillsUSA Kentucky State Officer Team



***Back row (l to r): Tyler Myatt, Jason Ballman, Righter Dundon and Andrea Lewis.  
Front row (l to r): Kristi Reeves, Loretta Wallace, Danielle Phelps, and Heather York.***



Good News Flash #257  
By: Fran Dundon  
Office of Career and Technical Education  
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet  
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